K Malkin 816. m. 6 / 16 15

A PROPOSAL Humbly Preſented to the Right Honourable the HOUSE of COMMONS, by which it is Reaſonable to Suppoſe a Million may be Raiſed (and as it is hoped much more) without Oppreſſing any Perſon, every one being at their Liberty to Pay, or not to Pay.

IF this Honourable Aſſembly think good to Enact, That no Perſon of any Rank, Quality, or Condition whatever, ſhall in their Wearing Apparel, uſe or wear any thing that is not of the true Growth, Product, and Manufactury of this Kingdom; for and during one whole year, to Commence from the 25th of *March* next, except they take out Liſences for the ſame at a certain Rate; ſome Rates being hereafter ſpecified, which are Humbly Submitted to the Candid Cenſure of this Auguſt Aſſembly to Judge of the Equality of.

That every Duke, Dutches, Marques and Marchioneſs, Earl and Counteſs, pay for ſuch Liſence Five Pounds each, and for their Children under their Tuition, Two Pounds each; that all Perſons under the Degree of an Earl and Counteſs, to a Knight and his Lady incluſive, do pay for ſuch Liſence Four Pounds each, and for their Children, One Pound Ten Shillings each; That all Eſquires by Birth or Place, all Gentlemen, all Clergy Men, all Lawyers, all Merchants and Whole-Sale Trades Men, and all Officers either in His Majeſty's Cuſtoms or elſewhere, whoſe Salaries are Forty Pound a Year, or above, and their Wives to pay for ſuch Liſence Two Pounds Ten Shillings each, and for their Children One Pound each; That all Yeoman Men and Rich Farmers, all Servants, or Men that have any Place whoſe Wages or Sallary is Twenty Pounds a Year or upward, and under Forty; all Retale Trades-Men (except ſuch Handy-Craft Trades that get their Living only by their Work) and their Wives, do pay for ſuch Liſence one Pound each, and for their Children Ten Shllings each; That all other, be they Handy-Craft Trades or Servants, or any other Perſon not before mentioned, and their Wives that take ſuch Liſence, ſhall pay for each Ten Shillings, and for their Children Five Shillings each.

And it is Humbly Suppoſed, That at the Rates before ſpecified, it may riſe to a far greater Summ than is firſt mentioned; but if it ſhould fall ſhort of ſuch a Sum (as in all probability it will not) yet whatever Money it doth raiſe, will be preſent Money, and therefore much better than any that will be longer in raiſing; and for the better Effecting the ſame, Books with Blank Liſences may be Printed and Numbered, and room left in the ſaid Books where the Liſence is cut out, to inſert the Perſon's Name, Quality, and Place of Abode that hath ſuch Liſence: And other Cautions are ready to be Propoſed, that will be ſufficient to ſecure the Act for being Evaded, or any Perſon Wrong'd, if this moſt Honourable and Auguſt Aſſembly ſhall think fit to make ſuch Act, and to Rectifie the Rates before Propoſed, if found in any part unequal: And it is Humbly Suppoſed, That ſuch Act can be no hindrance or diſadvantage to any Trade whatever, for it may reaſonably be conjectured, that moſt People will take out ſuch Liſences rather than lay by the Cloaths they have already, and buy others conformable to the Act, which will coſt more than the Liſence by much; and it is hoped, that ſuch Act in one years time may diſcover ſuch Advantages for the Publick good, as may induce it hereafter to be turned into a perpetual Law; All which is Humbly Submitted to the Wiſdom and Candid Cenſure of this Honourable Aſſembly, by a Real Lover of the preſent Government, and the Liberty and Property of the Subject, and is Your Honours moſt Dutiful, Obedient, and Humble Servant,

Gilbert Malkin.

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